

BRITAIN PREPARING TO COOPERATE HERE

Dispatch of Political Mission Expected to Be the Initial Step.

FINANCES COME FIRST

Suggestion of Huge Bond Issue by U. S. With Full Proceeds to Entente.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun. LONDON, April 4.—All the wheels of British Government machinery began moving slowly to-day, preparatory to the dispatch of a political mission to the United States. A sort of breathless pause followed the publication of President Wilson's message on Tuesday, but to-day the British authorities showed that they are eagerly awaiting the action of Congress.

British financiers in close touch with American affairs believe the best system would be for the United States to float its own bonds at low interest rates, giving the proceeds to the Entente nations, who will back them up with a bond issue, thus avoiding the high interest demanded of countries long at war.

Particular enthusiasm has been shown for the American plan for aiding France. While Great Britain could accept nothing in gratitude from America, even were it offered, it is held here that America really owes Britain a debt of gratitude, even more than the material aid, for aid rendered before the sister republics in past wars. Therefore any generous act of America toward France would meet with approbation from all the Entente Powers.

Soldiers Will Be Welcomed.

There is increasing interest in America's possible assistance. Whether great or small, any detachment of American soldiers coming to Europe would have a tremendous moral effect. The Westminster correspondent writes to-day that an important political mission will start for America as soon as possible to discuss the work of cooperating in the war. However, it has not yet been decided whether a commission will be sent to the United States or an American commission sent here. The presence of American officers here would be welcomed by naval men, but Washington seems more likely to be selected as the place of meeting.

Pending the decision of Congress the Ministers and responsible officials in London hesitate to make any public expression of their ideas and sentiments on American cooperation with the Entente Allies. The present mood of the British public is perplexed. On the one hand they have daily evidence from the western front of the splendid success of the Allies continuing advance; on the other hand, the War Office is constantly insisting upon the urgency of providing more men for the front, and the Ministers are imposing increasing food restrictions, warning the country that still greater sacrifices than any yet endured will be needed.

Germany Stronger Than Ever.

There were two instances of this to-day. Gen. Robertson, chief of the Imperial Staff at Army Headquarters, declared that the Germans are now stronger by 1,000,000 men than at any time before and that the struggle will entail heavy sacrifices and greater determination. Winston Spencer Churchill, in the House of Commons, in the course of a discussion of the air service, referred to the reports from the war as "God granted aid to struggling Christendom," and declared that but for this aid no prudent man could have said that the issue of the war was settled.

Never since the victory of the Marne had the position been more serious, added Mr. Churchill, and even with America in the struggle a most oppressive situation lay before the nation and the most vehement efforts were needed. The most terrible months of the war were coming, and it would only be by the highest wisdom, utmost daring and truest comradeship that the Allies should come safely through.

People Take New Hope.

Faced by the gloomy predictions, the people, who a few weeks ago were inclined to believe any practical assistance the United States could render, even if she came into the war, have now a tendency to go to the other extreme and hope for everything from American cooperation. While it is recognized that the greatest aid possible in the immediate future would be from the American navy and the realm of finance and supplies, keen curiosity is displayed as to the line cooperation with the new ally will take.

The American Ambassador, Walter H. Page, had another prolonged conference with Mr. Balfour, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, to-day, and the American Naval Attaché was in close communication with Admiralty officials on the naval cooperation. All reports of American war preparedness were read with eagerness and satisfaction.

An interesting phase of the situation is the renewed peace talk, and although Premier Lloyd George, questioned in the House of Commons to-day about these rumors, said he was not aware of any peace terms being suggested by the Central Governments, there is a very general belief that the reports from Vienna and inspired German newspapers of renewed peace tentatives are well founded and that the conference of the two Emperors and high officials of the Central Empires at German headquarters is likely to have a striking sequel which would not be unconnected with the entry of the United States into the war.

Action by Congress Awaited.

Andrew Bonar Law, member of the British War Council and Government spokesman in the House of Commons, was asked to-day by T. P. O'Connor in the lower house of Parliament whether the Government "proposed to respond to the universal feeling in this country that some acknowledgment should be made in the House of Commons to the great speech made by President Wilson." Mr. Bonar Law replied:

"The House will understand that the Government is as anxious as any member of the House to take due notice of what I think was an epoch making speech, but until it is discussed in Congress we are satisfied it would not be right that official notice should be taken of it. In these circumstances any perfunctory discussion would seem to us to be undesirable."

Arthur Lynch asked whether in view of the expected entrance of the United States into the war on the side of the Allies the Government would give instructions that the severe censorship of despatches sent by American corre-

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spendents should be abolished. Mr. Bonar Law replied:

"Despatches of American correspondents always have been treated with great consideration, and censors will of course have regard for the new conditions which have arisen, subject of course to the obvious requirements of the situation."

ENGLISH BRIDES FOR ROYALTY OF BRITAIN

London Papers Urge Prince of Wales to Choose His Mate at Home.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

LONDON, April 4.—Resulting perhaps from the downfall of the Russian aristocracy and the American stand against Germany's separate royal caste, there have appeared in London newspapers severe criticisms of the British traditions of royal marriages.

The Times and the Evening Star urge that the old system of Kings choosing mates for themselves or their heirs among the daughters of their own nobility should be revived. The matter will become urgent immediately after the war, because England will expect the Prince of Wales to marry.

It is evident that the local writers want the heir to the throne to marry the daughter of some British noble house. The only objection to this plan would arise if the family arrogated claims and privileges which might cause dispute.

"After all," says the Evening Star, "there is an objection only so long as people maintain the absurd idea of a separate royal caste. When that is definitely relinquished there will be no reason why favored ladies should not assume royal airs."

Commenting editorially, the Star says: "Does any sane man imagine that British democracy must lag behind Russian or American democracy? No power on earth can fetter it. It is going forward over every obstacle. No underground plots can stay its march. Much it has endured in the name of patriotism or for the sake of unity, but its patience is not inexhaustible.

"In electoral reform, in the treatment of labor, in the treatment of the Irish question, we have three touchstones of democracy. The Star has already urged that the Prince of Wales marry a British woman. It is well to be frank. We want no more foreigners in our royal family. There is no British blood in our royal family. Parliament ought to bar all foreign marriages and lock the door against matrimonial permutation.

"We respectfully suggest that King George ought to follow the example set by the President of the United States and send a greeting to the Russian people and the American people in the name of the British Empire."

NEW CHARGES ASK REMOVAL OF SWANN

City Club Alleges Misconduct, Malfeasance and Violation of Law.

'COERCION OF WITNESSES'

"False and Malicious" Is Reply of District Attorney to Accusation.

The City Club last night made public through its counsel, Charles Mellen, a new series of charges against District Attorney Swann. These have been filed with Gov. Whitman and are urged as sufficient basis for the State Executive to remove Swann from office. The blast of last night is a sequel to the first set of accusations. In brief they allege that the District Attorney and his assistants sought to defeat the effect of the primary charges.

Nelson Spencer, president of the City Club, who has sponsored the arraignment of the prosecutor, charges Swann with misconduct in office, malfeasance, incompetency, neglect and violation of law in his administration. He alleges that District Attorney Swann:

"Did undertake to and did coerce and intimidate persons whom he knew or believed would be witnesses against him upon the hearing of charges and did threaten witnesses and in diverse ways did seek to prevent them from appearing as witnesses against him or to destroy the value or effect of their testimony."

Witness Case Cited.

Spencer's statement harks back to James A. Delahanty's refusal as Judge in General Session, to dismiss twelve indictments. It tells of the arrest of A. L. Wilson, who had assisted Lucian S. Breckinridge in investigating the cases of the indicted men and his subsequent release on bail.

The charges tell that after Wilson's release representatives of the District Attorney attempted to compel him to change his statements in reference to Breckinridge. His bail was then increased and in default of it he was committed to custody. On the same day Swann charged that Mr. Breckinridge had received a bribe of \$100 through Wilson. A few days afterward Wilson was again freed.

"Prior to his release," say the charges, "Edward Swann personally or through one of his assistants had persuaded or induced Wilson to alter a story concerning Breckinridge which he had theretofore told and to tell a story which would involve Lucian S. Breckinridge in the commission of a crime. Thereafter an indictment was found by the Grand Jury against Breckinridge, the material testimony against him being the testimony of Wilson."

Further, Spencer says that the persons whose testimony had procured the twelve indictments were refused dismissal by Judge Delahanty were indicted by a Grand Jury drawn before Judge McIntyre. They were charged with perjury and subornation of perjury. Nine persons were involved.

Personally Persuaded.

It is alleged in the City Club's charges that the District Attorney personally and through his assistants persuaded some of the persons to make statements contrary to those they had given before a Grand Jury in 1914. "For the apparent purpose," say the formal charges, "among other purposes of tending to connect in the public mind James A. Delahanty and Lucian S. Breckinridge with subornation of perjury and the wrongful procuring of the indictments in 1914 and other indictments in '17."

"All or some of the persons so indicted

(referring to those indicted since the filing of the first charges) were held in custody in default of bail and informed by Edward Swann as District Attorney or by his assistants or some of them that unless they hereafter testified they had theretofore given and told the story which the assistants urged them to tell they would be held indefinitely in prison; whereas if they would alter their story as urged and enter a plea of guilty they would at once be released."

Some of the persons changed their stories, says Spencer, and entered pleas of guilty "and gave evidence which was false and known to be false by Edward Swann and were thereupon released from custody without bail and permitted to go at liberty. Whereas those persons who refused to alter their views, as requested by Edward Swann or his assistants or some of them, and to enter such pleas were held in prison under large bail and told that their trials would be indefinitely postponed."

Woman's Charges Averred.

The third instance concerns Leonora E. Reinhardt, a trained nurse, who alleged in January that the District Attorney had secured the removal of her husband, Spencer, from his office after this woman through her counsel had arranged to see the City Club's counsel and make a statement to the District Attorney regarding him and his assistant John T. Doelling.

"The undersigned," says Spencer, "charges that the District Attorney, in procuring such statement and general release from Leonora E. Reinhardt was for the purpose of preventing an inquiry into the charges made by her, which charges were serious and if proved would have established, as the undersigned is informed, abuse of power and authority on the part of District Attorney Swann and his assistants or some of them."

When District Attorney Swann was acquainted with the charges last night he said he had not given a copy of them before filing. He said they were "false and malicious in every respect and were made with the intention of drawing public attention from the collapse of the original charges."

'Conscience of a U-Boat.'

His accusers he referred to as "political technicians with the conscience of a U-boat."

"I will immediately stipulate to permit them to consolidate the alleged additional charges with the original charges and shall insist that they proceed without further delay to the hearing and determination of the issues on Tuesday next."

"That the motive is political from the inception of the charges and these so-called additional charges evidenced by the fact that those purporting to represent the City Club have not hesitated to maliciously attack the integrity and honor of the Court of General Sessions which the Grand Jury of the county of New York by alleging a conspiracy between the District Attorney and two honorable Judges of the Court of General Sessions and the Grand Jury of the county of New York."

George L. Ingraham, formerly a Justice in the Appellate Division, will sit as commissioner in the hearing which is to begin next Tuesday. The District Attorney will be represented by John R. Stanfield, and Chase Mellen will urge the charges that have been brought by Nelson Spencer in behalf of the City Club.

STORES WOULD SELL U. S. BONDS

Dry Goods Association Offers Plan to Reach Millions of Buyers.

The National Retail Dry Goods Association, through E. L. Howe, its secretary, suggested to Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo yesterday that if the Government plans to issue bonds or notes of small denomination to raise money for the war the dry goods and department stores all through the country would be glad to cooperate.

They would sell the bonds or notes right over the counters, either direct from the Government or in conjunction with the local bankers. Said Mr. Howe:

"This affords a means of reaching millions of people who would purchase more willingly through such sources than any other. Merchants would undoubtedly handle such a patriotic contribution."

M. E. PASTOR TEARS DOWN GERMAN FLAG

Patriotic Clergymen at Conference Roused by Absence of French Tricolor.

ANGRY OUTCRIES HEARD

Dr. B. C. Warren Halts Debate by Stripping Teuton Emblem From Hangings.

A German flag hanging from the balcony of the Washington Square Church yesterday roused the ire of patriotic clergymen attending the New York Methodist Episcopal Conference until they demanded that the offensive banner be removed. Others, less bellicose in disposition, proposed to arbitrate the question. But the debate was scarcely under way before the Rev. B. C. Warren, D. D., pastor of the Eighteenth Street church, climbed to the gallery and stripped the red, white and black flag from its hangings and threw it to the floor.

The Rev. Clark Wright, a retired minister of farmers and a veteran of the civil war, opened the proceedings by turning to where a row of foreign flags was draped from the balcony. They were the flags of countries where the Methodist Church is carrying on its work, but the French flag was missing because none could be obtained.

"There is no nation to which the American heart goes out as it does to France," cried Dr. Wright, "yet I see there is no French flag in this church. The flag of the other nations are here. Over on yonder wall is even the flag of the horrible Turk, and the German flag seems to have been given a place of prominence. It hangs first to the left of the balcony. I move that the German flag be withdrawn until the French flag shall have its place."

The Rev. Sheridan Watson, Rev. D. D., pastor of the Washington Square Church, explained apologetically that for some reason it had been impossible to get a French flag. This, however, did not soothe the ministers, who were bent on the removal of the German flag. To calm them Chan-

cellor James R. Day of Syracuse University suggested that "it must be remembered that we are not fighting the German people but a dynasty. The flag represents the people of the whole country, and though it am by no means a pacifist, as you all know, I think we ought to go a little slow in anything that might wound our brethren there."

"I move that the pastor get a French flag and put it up as quickly as he can. If he hesitates, for the French Consulate for it."

The angry outcry rose higher, and in the midst of it Dr. Warren started for the gallery, shouting:

"In the name of the United States Government I demand that the German flag be taken down!"

An instant later the bit of hanging had been stripped from the balcony, and although Dr. Warren was urged to put it back until the conference could vote on the matter, he refused point blank.

Bishop Luther B. Wilson finally restored some semblance of order, and announced that Dr. Wright had made a motion which in effect would remove the German flag and substitute in its place the French tricolor. This motion was carried overwhelmingly.

Dr. Cates of Tarrytown and the Rev. Christian P. Reiser of Grace Church offered amendments which would have deferred the action until the next day, but no flag but the American should be allowed at the conference, but this was rejected. So was Dr. Reiser's suggestion that by moving a resolution for removing the flag before Congress declared the war the delegation might be "embarrassing the situation."

A committee of five was appointed to draft resolutions pledging the denomination's support to President Wilson, and Bishop Wilson offered a prayer for the guidance of the country in the present crisis on Dr. Reiser's motion.

Up to the time of adjournment, late in the afternoon, no French flag had been obtained to replace the German, but it was said efforts were being made to buy one.

Messenger "Boy" With Funeral Flowers Suspected of Looting Humphreys Home.

Messenger boys passed in a stream Tuesday through the front entrance of the home of E. W. Humphreys, 3 East Sixty-fifth street, where lay the body of a sister-in-law, Mrs. Arthur Duane. Each blue clad boy bore a box of flowers or a telegram and a maid at the door sent them unaccompanied upstairs or down as circumstances dictated.

One of these "boys," it now seems certain, was a clever and unscrupulous crook as the city has ever known. Deliberately taking advantage of the confusion in the house of mourning, the police believe a thief disguised himself as a messenger, bought flowers, got upstairs and, escaping surveillance, emptied a jewel box into his pocket and slipped from the house with \$70,000 worth of valuables.

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DEATH USED TO AID \$70,000 GEM THEFT

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Mrs. Humphreys entered her room at the rear of the second floor and discovered her loss. The jewel box lay open and empty on top of her chiffonier. Calling for her maid who pulled open the second drawer, where other jewels had been hidden, they were untouched. This box contained a diamond necklace valued at \$100,000.

Inspector Gray was immediately notified and the case put in the hands of Capt. Jones of the Third Branch Detective Bureau. Two of the best men in the department were assigned to have personal charge of the case.

Following a thorough questioning of the eight or ten house servants the detectives became convinced that the robbery was not an inside job. This conclusion was further strengthened by the discovery of a partly used tube containing a skin preparation which is much in vogue at present among professionals, who know it conceals fingerprints.

Yesterday a list of those who sent flowers was obtained and as near as possible the names of the florists. Today the police were busy in the hands of many of the messenger and delivery boys as can be identified by the florists. Of the jewelry stolen the finest single item was a pearl necklace, composed of 110 perfectly matched gems and valued at \$35,000. Other jewels were an \$8,000 diamond tiara, a \$2,000 diamond studded watch, a \$3,000 diamond bracelet and a diamond collar valued at \$18,000.

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